

In The Claims:

1-7 (Canceled).

8 (Currently Amended). A stabilized medicament comprising:

(A) an effervescent system comprising:

(i) a CO₂ donor, and

(ii) an acidic component;

(B) a degradable pharmaceutically active substance, and

(C) at least one ingredient, selected from the group consisting of fusible sugars, sugar alcohols, and sugar substitutes, wherein at least one of said CO₂ donor and said acidic component is dispersed in said ingredient, wherein said ingredient and said at least one of said CO₂ donor and said acidic component dispersed therein have a structure formed by melting said ingredient and dispersing said at least one of said CO₂ donor and said acidic component therein and resolidifying said ingredient and at least one of said CO₂ donor and said acidic component, to form a first blend wherein said degradable pharmaceutically active substance is not dispersed in said first blend, and wherein a sufficient amount of said CO₂ donor or said acidic component is dispersed in said ingredient to stabilize at least one of said CO₂ donor, said acidic component, and said degradable pharmaceutically active substance said ingredient comprises at least 30% by weight of said first blend.

9 (Previously Presented). The stabilized medicament of claim 8, wherein said ingredient has a melting point from 30° C to 200° C.

10(Previously Presented). The stabilized medicament of claim 9, wherein said ingredient has a melting point from 40° C to 160° C.

11(Currently Amended). A process for producing a stabilized medicament, said stabilized medicament comprising:

(A) an effervescent system comprising:

(i) a CO₂ donor, and

(ii) an acidic component;

(B) a degradable pharmaceutically active substance, and

(C) at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of fusible sugars, sugar alcohols, and sugar substitutes,

wherein said process comprises the steps of: (a) at least partially melting said ingredient, (b) mixing at least one of said CO₂ donor and said acidic component with said at least partially melted ingredient to form an at least partially molten blend in which said at least one of said CO₂ donor and said acidic component is dispersed, (c) cooling said at least partially molten blend to form a first blend, (d) combining said cooled at least partially molten blend, said pharmaceutically active substance and any remaining portion of said effervescent system and (e) forming said stabilized medicament, wherein said ~~ingredient is present in an amount sufficient to stabilize at least one of said CO₂ donor, said acidic component, and said degradable pharmaceutically active substance~~ ingredient comprises

at least 30% by weight of said first blend and said degradable pharmaceutically active substance is not dispersed in said first blend.

12 (Previously Presented). The process of claim 11, wherein said step of at least partially melting said ingredient is carried out at a temperature from 30° C to 200° C.

13 (Previously Presented). The process of claim 12, wherein said step of at least partially melting said ingredient is carried out at a temperature from 40° C to 160° C.

14 (Previously Presented). The process of claim 11, where said blend is comminuted after cooling.

15 (Previously Presented). The process of claim 11, wherein said medicament is tabletted.

16 (Previously Presented). The medicament of claim 8, wherein said degradable pharmaceutically active substance is aspirin.

17 (Previously Presented). The process of claim 11, wherein said degradable pharmaceutically active substance is aspirin.

18 (New). The process of claim 8, wherein said structure is formed in the absence of water or a volatile solvent.

19 (New). The process of claim 11, wherein said process is carried out in the absence of water or a volatile solvent.